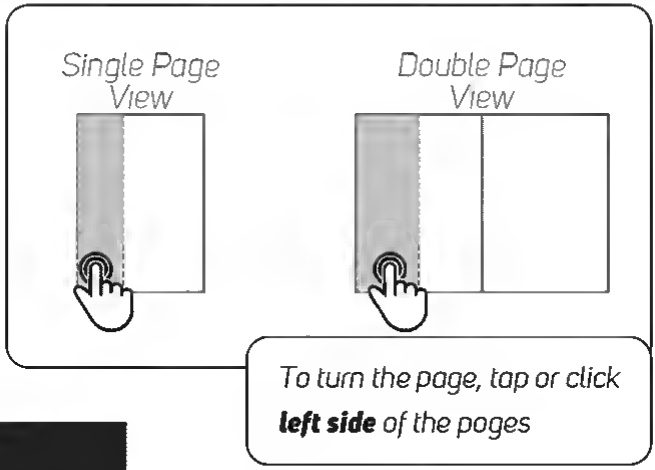
A **COMIC ZENON** Production

Arte

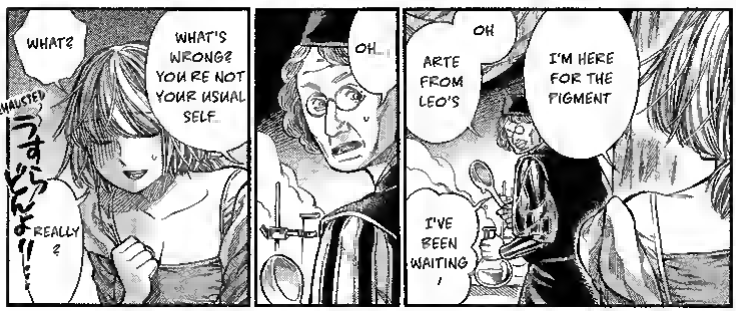
by KEI OHKUBO

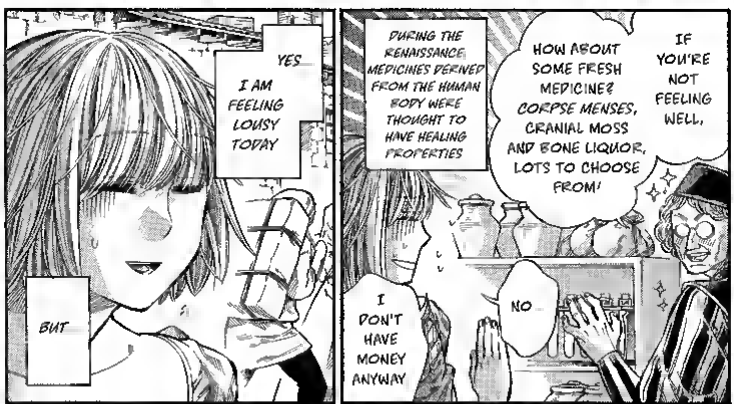
This manga is read in
RIGHT to LEFT
page order



PLEASE TAP
LEFT
TO BEGIN!

THE ALWAYS CHEERFUL ARTE IS FEELING DOWN...?




YES
I AM FEELING LOUSY TODAY
BUT
DURING THE RENAISSANCE, MEDICINES DERIVED FROM THE HUMAN BODY WERE THOUGHT TO HAVE HEALING PROPERTIES
HOW ABOUT SOME FRESH MEDICINE? CORPSE MENSES, CRANIAL MOSS AND BONE LIQUOR, LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM!
IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL,
NO
I DON'T HAVE MONEY ANYWAY

*The practice of medicine was not trusted during this period

Arte

Chapter 10: Inseverable Ties

Art and Story by
Kei Ohkubo

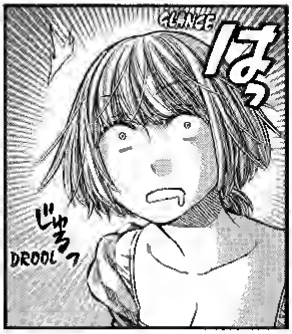
I WONDER HOW MANY OTHERS IN THE CITY ARE FEELING SIMILAR FOR THE SAME REASON.

BUT IN THE CURRENT 16TH CENTURY, THIS PRACTICE IS QUITE RARE.
AFTER SUNDOWN ON FASTING DAYS, PEOPLE COULD HAVE FISH OR VEGETABLES, BUT NO MEAT
IN THE MIDDLE AGES, IT WAS COMMON FOR CHRISTIANS TO FAST ON FRIDAYS

DELICIOUS TREATS LINE THE STREETS!

IT WAS BELIEVED...
OR SO

SPRINT
STOP! STOP!
THE MARKET IS THE WORST PLACE TO BE TODAY!
I JUST NEED TO HURRY ON THROUGH!


GLANCE
DROOL

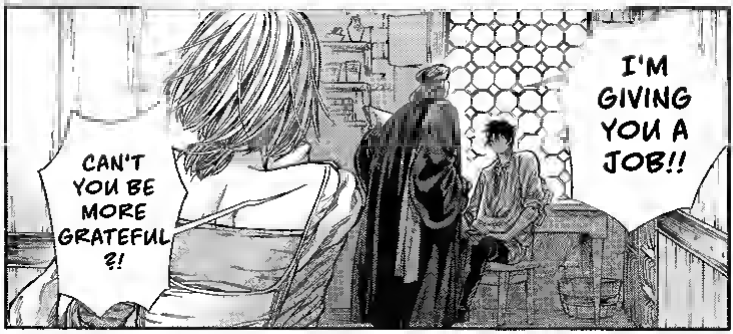
Oink Oink
HEY ?

No breakfast
Soup (Vegetable)
Lunch
Dinner
Pickled Herring
AS HIS APPRENTICE, I'M FOLLOWING THE SAME ROUTINE AS HIM...
YES... FOR SOME REASON, MASTER LEO ONLY EATS SOUP FOR LUNCH ON FRIDAYS (AT NIGHT HE'LL EAT NON-MEAT FOODS)
I WONDER WHY MASTER LEO FASTS?
He doesn't seem like an especially devout person...
AHH I'M STARVING
GROWL

SQUEEK
FOR WHO?
MAYBE SOMEONE'S HERE TO COMMISSION A PAINTING

A CARRIAGE?

WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE!!?
PUNCH
!


I'M GIVING YOU A JOB!!
CAN'T YOU BE MORE GRATEFUL?!

STOMP
STOMP
SHEESH
Whoah!
STOMP
STOMP

JUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS!
THWA
SHK
THAT'S ALL!!

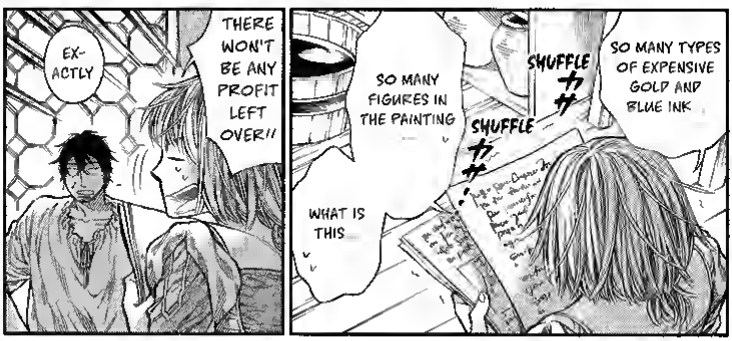
MASTER LEO, WHAT'S WRONG !?
EXHAUSTED
WAH!
HM?
CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP
NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE, IS HE A NEW CLIENT?

SO HE'S AN IMPORTANT CLIENT!
OHH!
NO.
HE'S A LONG TIME CLIENT
HE WAS TRAVELLING OVERSEAS SO HE HASN'T COME IN A WHILE
AH
YOU'VE NEVER MET HIM

JUST AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.
TSCH
HE CLICKED HIS TONGUE
?
UM... MASTER LEO?
Um...
AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE ?
SHOCK
Let's see...
SHUFFLE
FLINCH
FLINCH
AH THE ORDER SHEET ?
LOOK AT THIS
WHAT ABOUT THE ORDER SHEET?

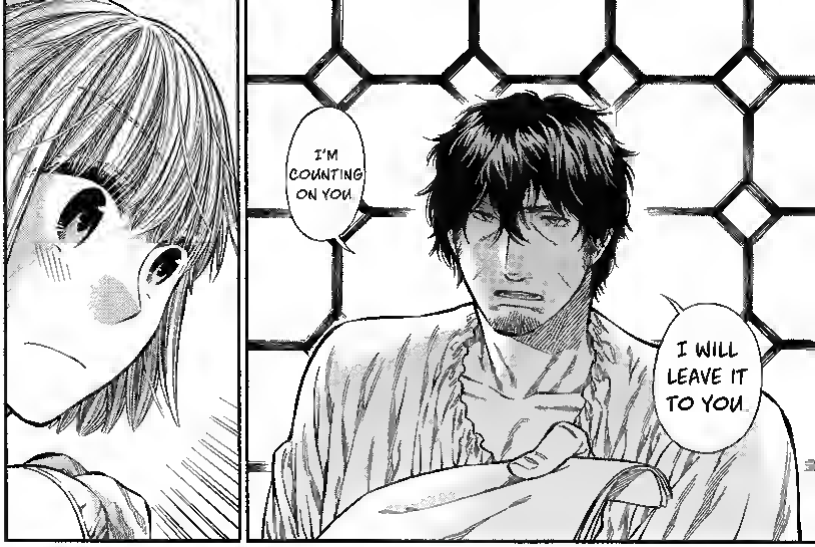
WHAT?
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM
First time, I've seen such a large payment
SHIVER
UM...
IS THERE AN EXTRA ZERO ON THE PAYMENT?
SHIVER
SHIVER
LOOK AT THE SPECIFICS FOR THE MATERIALS

TO RECOUP THE COST OF THE PAINTING AND NOT INCUR A LOSS,
ORDERS EVEN HAD INDIVIDUAL INK PRICES QUOTED OUT
DURING THIS PERIOD, IT WAS COMMON FOR ORDER SHEETS TO HAVE VERY SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, DETAILING EVERYTHING FROM THEME AND LAYOUT, TO THE MATERIALS, TO THE DELIVERY DATE


EX-ACTLY
THERE WON'T BE ANY PROFIT LEFT OVER!!
SO MANY FIGURES IN THE PAINTING
WHAT IS THIS
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
SO MANY TYPES OF EXPENSIVE GOLD AND BLUE INK

I CAN'T ACCEPT THE ORDER THE WAY IT IS...
I NEED TO GO NEGOTIATE
SLAP
SO ANNOYING. I COULD DIE
SORRY.
THAT SLIPPED OUT
NO.
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE
HE NEVER MAKES A FACE LIKE THAT WHEN IT COMES TO WORK
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN MASTER LEO LIKE THIS

WHAT?
!
HOW ABOUT I GO INSTEAD?
UM...
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TRY A DIFFICULT JOB!
AS A STEP UP FROM MY USUAL POSITION.
COULD YOU LET ME DO IT?
YOU'RE SAYING THIS TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER
DON'T TRY SO HARD.
AM I THAT OBVI-OUS?
ARTE...
GLANCE
SLUMP
しょぼ!ん
BUT...
MAYBE IF A GIRL GOES, EVEN THAT OLD GEEZER MIGHT BE A LITTLE EASIER TO DEAL WITH...


I'M COUNTING ON YOU
I WILL LEAVE IT TO YOU

HE...
SAID HE'S COUNTING ON...
ME!!
CLENCH
OKAY!
MASTER LEO...
SLAM
パタン…

BOUND
I NEED TO MAKE THE NEGOTIATIONS GO WELL!
MASTER LEO GAVE THIS RESPONSIBILITY TO ME!
THAT MAN...
WHO IS HE...?
BUT
FOR MASTER LEO TO DISLIKE A CUSTOMER
RUB
RUB
A SMALL STUDIO LIKE OURS
JUST LET US BE
THAT MAN...
SHEESH
YOU TOOK ON A NEW APPRENTICE?

HMPH
WHAT? IS HE A BEGGAR?
YES, HE'S A BIT UNSOCIABLE
BUT HE'S A HARD WORKER AND SHOWS PROMISE
I DON'T BUY THAT
HE'LL JUST BE A HINDRANCE
HEY, LISTEN!
HIRING SOME ONE WITHOUT REFERENCE WILL BRING DOWN YOUR STUDIO'S REPUTATION!
IF YOU NEED MORE HANDS, I CAN FIND SOME
THOSE FOOLS CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT HELP
THOSE 'REFERENCES' YOU SPEAK OF ARE JUST THEIR PARENT'S CONNECTIONS

I WILL DO A LOT BETTER WORK THAN ANY OF THOSE WITH "REFERENCE"!
I CHOSE THIS PATH I STAND HERE BECAUSE I FOUGHT MY WAY HERE!
NO ONE HAS HELPED ME TO DO WHAT I DO
TO SPEAK BACK TO ME HOW INTERESTING
WHAT A FOOLISH CHILD
PROVE YOURSELF SHOW ME WHAT YOU CAN DO
OH
THIS...
INSEV-ERABLE TIE

YES?
MAMMA
WAIT A SEC
POUR
PHEW
SO HOT

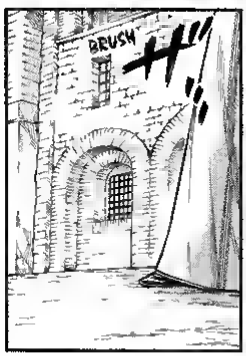
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
ROLL
ROLL
SPLASH
SPLASH
THE CLIENT SHOULD LIVE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE...
BRUSH
BRUSH
CUT
CUT
SWING
I WONDER WHY
THE ATMO-SPHERE HERE IS SO DIFFER-ENT...

FEELS LIKE ONE BIG WORKSHOP
THIS WHOLE AREA

!
HE DOES RUN THIS WHOLE AREA YOU KNOW
EVEN MY WORKSHOP IS RUN BY HIM!

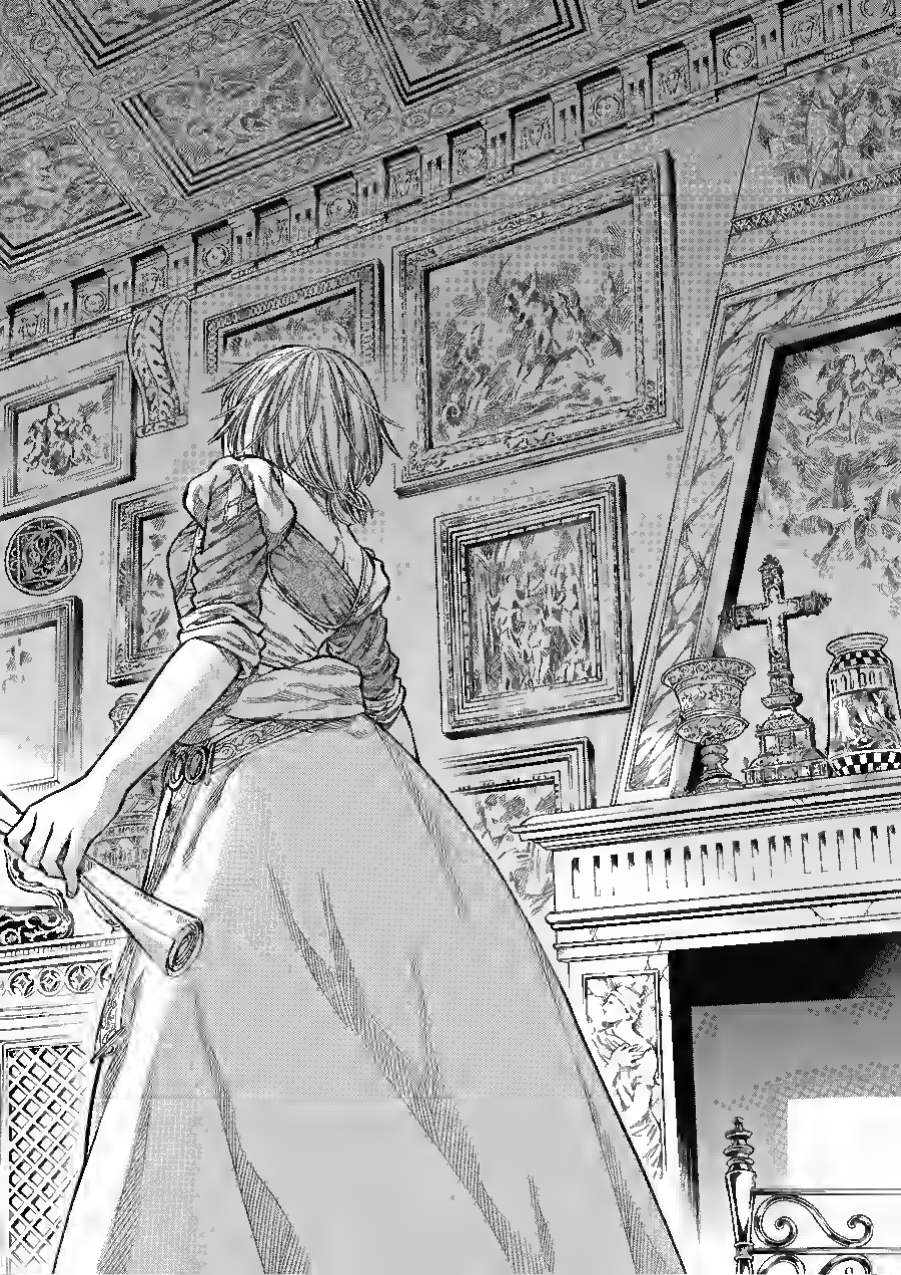
JUST RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER THERE.
YOU'LL SEE IT, IT'S A BIG BUILDING

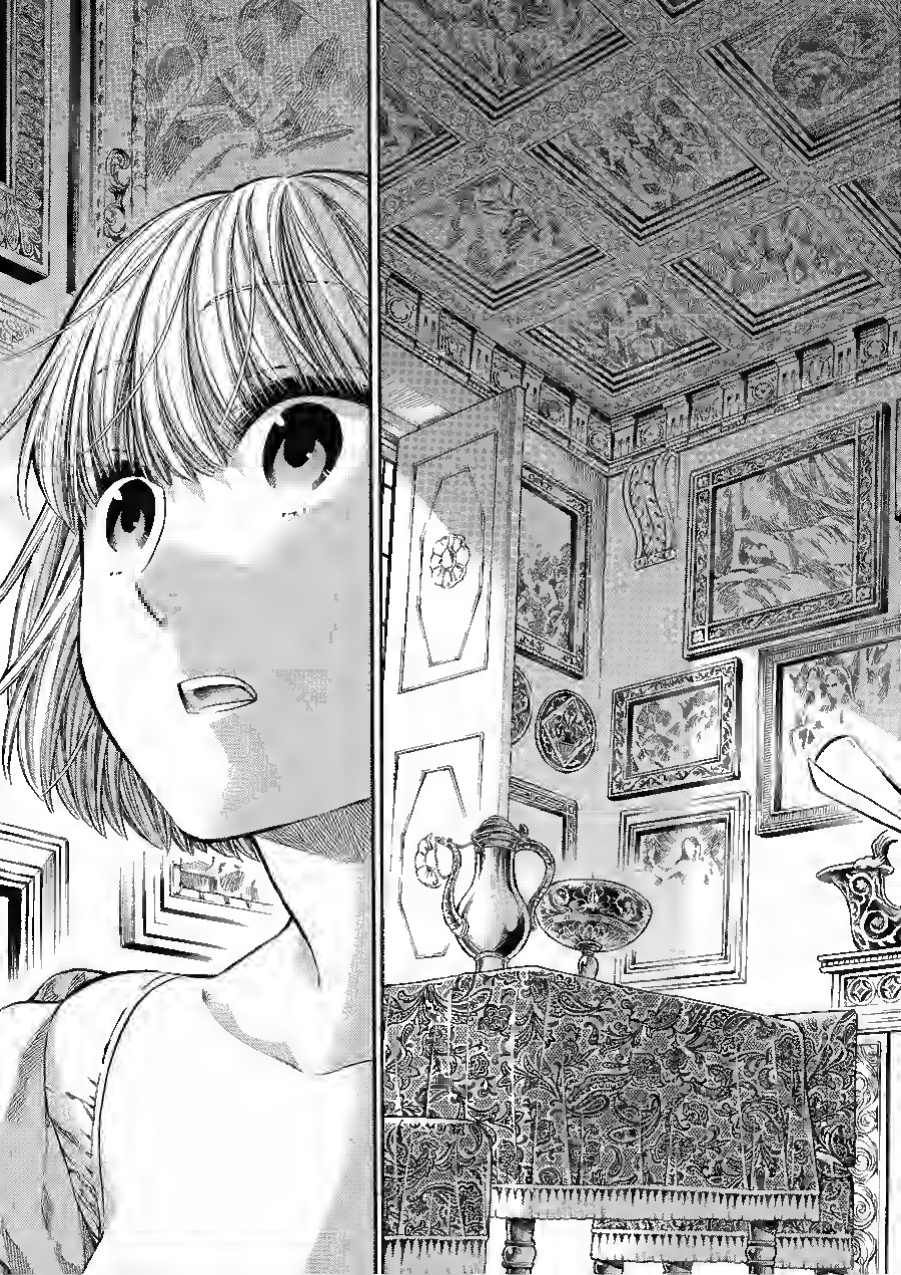
SIGNOR UBERTINO'S HOUSE?


BRUSH

THIS WHOLE AREA

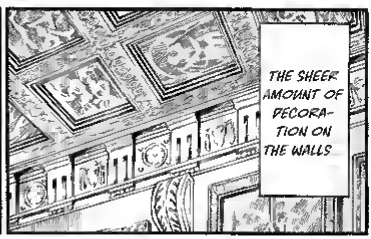
HERE...?
IT REALLY IS...
A VERY LARGE HOUSE
SHUT
CLOSE
PLEASE WAIT HERE



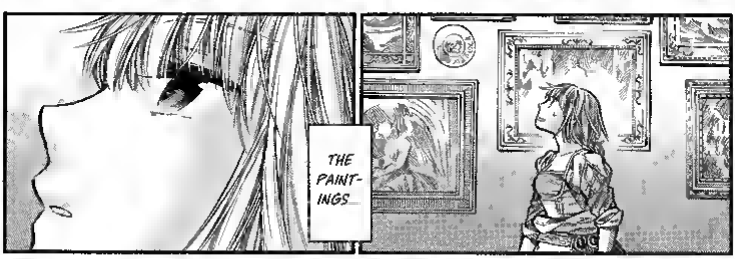


AMAZING
THIS ROOM IS SO

AND ALL OF THE GORGEOUS FURNISHINGS EVERYWHERE


THE SHEER AMOUNT OF DECORATION ON THE WALLS

ALL OF THESE PAINTINGS
BUT ABOVE ALL


THE PAINTINGS

SLIDE
スッ…
はっ
SHOCK
!!
STOMP
ドカ

EH
I'M
SIGNOR UBERTINO!
EXCUSE ME!
EH!?
AH!
UM!
DANG
DANG
DANG
OH
AH...

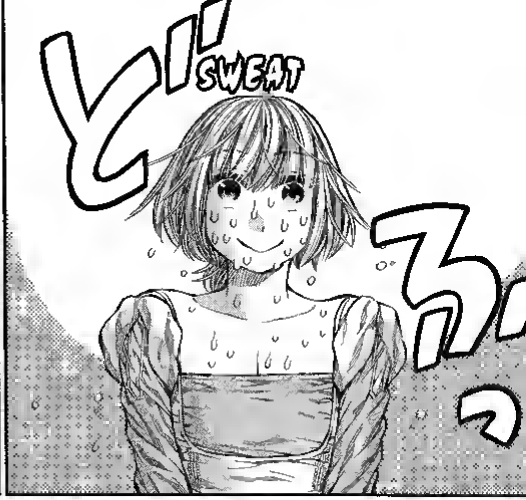
I HEARD LEO'S APPRENTICE WAS HERE

...AND THAT IS YOU?
LITTLE GIRL...
THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FROZEN IN FEAR...
AH...
ONE MOMENT, AND MY THROAT IS DRY
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE HAD AN APPRENTICE
LET ALONE IT BEING A GIRL
ARE YOU TRYING TO TO DECEIVE ME?
!
...

I ASSURE YOU,
SIGNOR UBERTINO
NOTHING OF THE SORT.
I AM MASTER LEO'S APPRENTICE
OH...

...
...
SO YOU SAY
...
!
FINE THEN
I WILL LISTEN. COME WITH ME

SO NERVOUS!!
AHHH-HH!!!
STIFF
STIFF


とぴ
SWEAT

I'VE NEVER MET SOMEONE
SCARIER THAN MASTER LEO...

GOSH

GROWL
I'M ALREADY SPENT...
Even though the real job starts now

WOW

THANK YOU

THIS IS MY STUDY.
COME IN

COMPARED TO THE DRAWING ROOM, THERE IS NOTHING HERE

WELL THEN
!

CLACK
CLACK
WHEN THE DYEING BEGINS, IT ALWAYS SMELLS
I CAN'T EVEN HAVE MY WINDOWS OPEN!
SHUT

THIS SMELL AGAIN
TERRIBLE

I WANTED TO ASK YOU TO FIX THE ORDER SHEET A LITTLE
ENTHUSIASM
AH!
WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR, LEO'S APPRENTICE?
OF COURSE!
UM?
TENSION
OH...
FLINCH
OH?
TENSION
TENSION
TENSION
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
IS THERE SOMETHING DISPLEASING ABOUT MY ORDER?
N-NO!
NOT NECESSARILY!

TENSION
SO, WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?
TENSION
TENSION
TENSION
IF YOU FIND NOTHING DISPLEASING ABOUT IT
WHY ARE YOU HERE? STOP WASTING MY TIME
TENSION

BUT I CAN'T LOSE HERE
MASTER LEO LEFT THIS JOB TO ME
SQUEEZE
WOW
SCARY
GLARE
GLARE
GLARE

DETERMINED
I NEED TO MAKE THIS TALK SUCCEED!
SO I HAVE TO

SLUMP
I AM SORRY...
IT WAS NO USE
I GUESS...
I WILL JUST HAVE TO GO
EVERYTIME I TRIED TO SPEAK, HE WOULD SHUT ME DOWN
HE BROKE HER... WELL, I THOUGHT AS MUCH...
SLUMP
HE BARELY LISTENED TO ME...
SLUMP
DON'T FEEL BAD THAT OLD MAN IS STUBBORN
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME
GO BACK TO YOUR OWN WORK

ONE MORE TIME
CAN I TRY GOING BACK?
UM...
MASTER LEO?
HM?
YES?

I KNOW I CAN DO BETTER...
I SAID I'D DO IT...
AND YOU PUT YOUR TRUST IN ME...!

I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH
BUT THIS TIME I'LL BE READY FOR HIM.
SO PLEASE
WHAT?
NO, NEVER MIND
IT'S SO LIKE YOU TO SAY
YOU "KNOW" BETTER
WELL
YOU'RE RIGHT. I DID SPRING THIS ON YOU YOU DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PREPARE
YOU COULD ONLY REPEAT EVERYTHING I SAID.

ARTE,
YOUR DREAM IS TO BECOME A TRUE PAINTER RIGHT?
!
YES

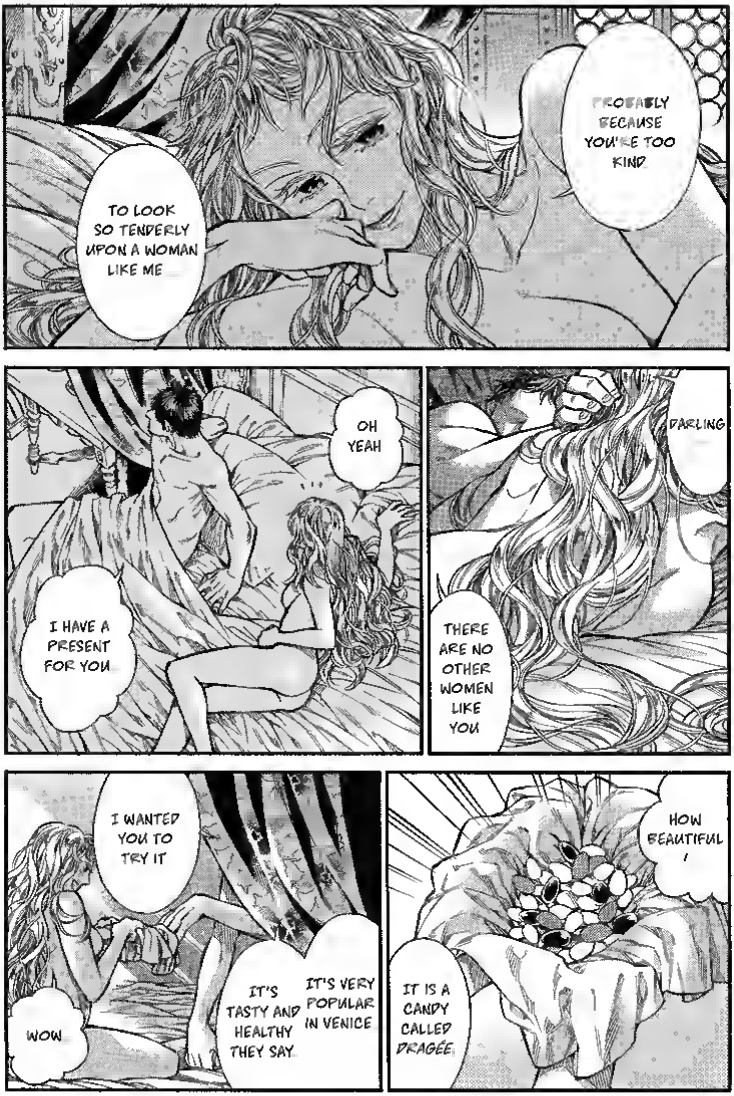
A TRUE PAINTER'S JOB ISN'T TO JUST CREATE GOOD PAINTINGS,
THAT IS ALSO IMPORTANT, BUT...
YOU MUST BE ABLE TO SELL AND LIVE OFF YOUR WORK
YOU NEED REGULAR INCOMING JOBS,
AND TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A PROFIT OFF OF THEM

YOU WILL NEED THIS SKILL IN THE FUTURE.
THINK OF THIS AS
A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY, AND TRY UNTIL YOU'RE SATISFIED

WELL,
BESIDES
I WILL WORK HARD!
THANK YOU!!
AH...
REALLY !!?
I wouldn't let you for any other clients.
I WON'T MIND AT ALL
IF WE CUT OUR TIES WITH THE OLD GEEZER
NOW,
WHAT'S MY PLAN OF ATTACK...
THERE ARE NO INSTRUC-TIONS IN THE BOOK OF MANNERS
FLIP
MASTER LEO'S METHOD
ISN'T REALLY
MASTER LEO HAS TRUSTED ME WITH THIS...

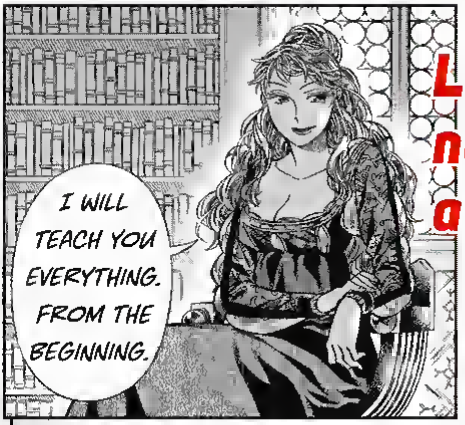
Just thinking↓
Silent Pressure
Here, please do it like this
I CAN'T REALLY USE HIM AS AN EXAMPLE
Um
We can't so instead
Flinch Flinch
It's okay as is!
UM
I CAN'T DO THE SAME THING AS MASTER LEO
I NEED TO FIND MY OWN WAY
MY OWN WAY
AS AN APPRENTICE?
AS A NOBLE'S DAUGHTER?
AS A GIRL?
RACK
UM HOW?
AH

HEHE
I WONDER WHY
WITH YOU.
MY HEART FEELS AT EASE.

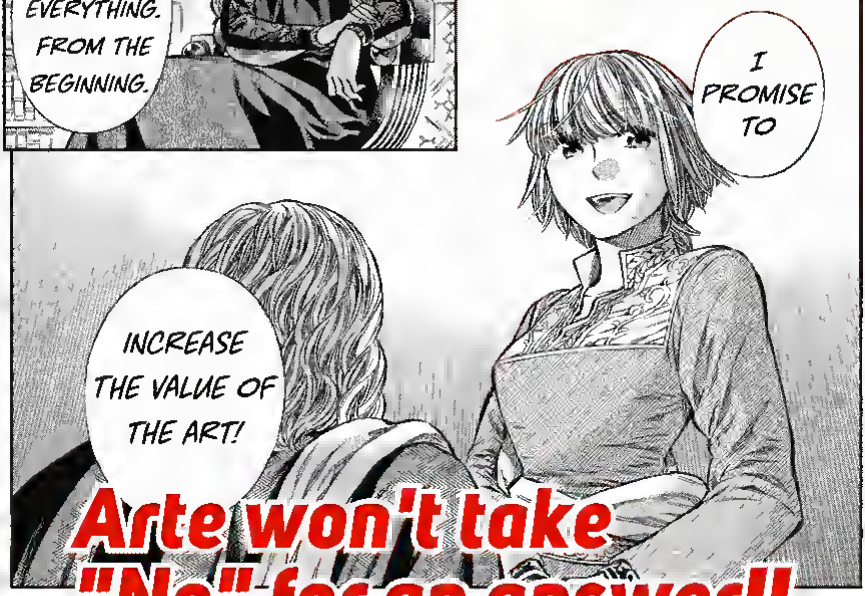

PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO KIND
TO LOOK SO TENDERLY UPON A WOMAN LIKE ME
DARLING
THERE ARE NO OTHER WOMEN LIKE YOU
OH YEAH
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU
HOW BEAUTIFUL !
IT IS A CANDY CALLED DRAGÉE
I WANTED YOU TO TRY IT
WOW
IT'S TASTY AND HEALTHY THEY SAY
IT'S VERY POPULAR IN VENICE

♦ Ch. 10 END ♦

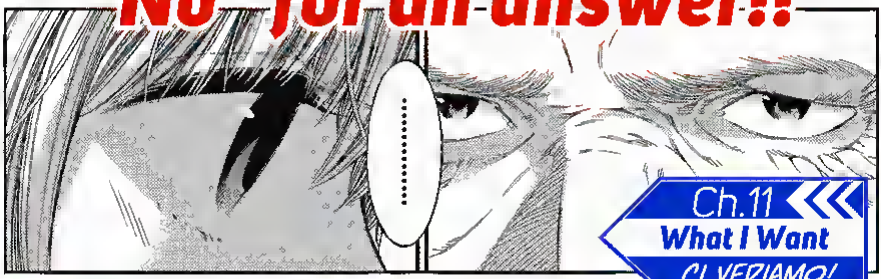
THE BEST PERSON TO ADVISE ARTE IN DEALING WITH MEN...!



Learning negotiation from a cortigiana...!?



Arte won't take "No" for an answer!!



Ch.11
What I Want
CI VEDIAMO!